

AN
INAUGURAL DISSERTATION

ON

Homœopathy

SUBMITTED TO THE

PRESIDENT, BOARD OF TRUSTEES, AND MEDICAL FACULTY

OF THE

University of Nashville,

FOR THE DEGREE OF

DOCTOR OF MEDICINE.

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OF

Mississippi

1850

W. T. BERRY & CO.,
BOOKSELLERS AND STATIONERS,
NASHVILLE, TENN.

Homoeopathy

It is difficult to comment with due gravity upon a subject so perfectly ridiculous and absurd. But the disciples of Hahnemann look upon it as the greatest and most scientific of all the methods of physic, and cling to it with an affection and ardor, worthy of a better cause — I declare in the beginning that it is only the nonsense in connection with the subject, that induces me to attack the system under consideration, and to raise my voice against such a humbug and the Charlatans who fight under its black banner — I ask the whole civilized ^{world} if such pretensions as the followers of this creed set up do

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not reach the climax of boastful
Charlatanry and mendacious delusion.
And it would be proper to state here
that the poorer classes and the
untutored are not the only ones that
have been duped, but some of that
class which claims intelligence - the
Uppertens have given into the Sympy
Song which was first sung by
Hahnemann and now by his disciples
and will continue to be sung until
the Legitimate Practitioners of Medicine
rise up as one man and expose it -
in all of its distorted proportions -
Condemn it not only in their practice
but proclaim to the world the
dangerous fallacies on which it is
founded, — Any man who was

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not a dyspeptic, might swallow with perfect impunity many millions daily of the homoeopathic globules medicated with any drug or poison whatever in the middle or higher potencies of homoeopathic practitioners. - Alone the globules made with sugar of milk or common sugar, would not suffice for the full maintenance and nourishment of the body -

For physiological experiments have fully shown that sugar alone ^{would not suffice} - But the addition of starch or of Nitrogenized food to the sugar would render it nutritious and suitable for the preservation and maintenance of life. If the globules were made as they are now sometimes recommended to be made

a man might not only swallow millions of them daily, but might use them exclusively as an article of diet, and would perhaps live to ripe old age all the while taking homoeopathic physic. - - - - -

In the history of the human mind few things are more interesting or instructive than from time to time to turn back and view the far distant past, and see what strange delusions characterized our Forefathers in regard to the so-called sciences of their day and time, which have failed to stand the test of time, have been absorbed in the past, and others have been sprung upon us, the most ridiculous of which is Homoeopathy

which too like its predecessors must die "unwept-unhonor'd and unsung"
Of all the delusions of the past
witchcraft certainly is at the head
and is oftentimes referred to by Modern
authors as a strange and well known
example showing the incredible credul-
ity of our Ancestors— Indeed the
history of witchcraft is constantly
alluded to as showing conclusively
to what extent the human mind
may be gull'd—and what strange
thoughts take possession of the soul,
It is certainly astounding that our
Ancestors should ^{have} accorded credence
to the alleged workings and wonders
of witchcraft— Yet we know too
painfully from the pages of history

that witchcraft—"numbered its victims by tens of thousands and its votaries by millions"— But we can always see the faults and follies of others more clearly than we can see our own. While we can appreciate the true character of past delusion—yet frequently are we blind to those which actually surround us. — — — — —

Many of the disciples of Homœopathy would no doubt deem it quite derogatory to be classed with or as being less scientific than the legitimate practitioners. They no doubt would call it insult and would boil with rage and be fired with indignation toward any man that would make the accusation

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They would certainly show fight if they were to be accused of being no more rational in their creed than the now despised disciples of witchcraft of former days,—

We are told that the witch business of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries believed that witchcraft had the power of bestowing animal transformation upon its votaries, that those possessed of its regenerating influence had the power of turning themselves into cats dogs &c.

But Modern Homoeopathy hath taught transformation far more wonderful and marvelous. It has taught or attempted to teach that the itch insect or (*Acarus Scabiei*) or its

miasm, may appear both in the human mind and body, under the shape attributes and forms of many, very many diseases, as Mumps Mania Hypochondriasis Hysteria Cramps Dropsy bleeding at the nose and many others might be mentioned and also that these insects are the indirect or direct cause of Mormonism Atheism Bigotry &c, including a thousand other crimes and sins, Compare with the above the prevalent idea of the old witchfinders, detecting by certain signs, "the marking of Satan" was in fact not a whit more ridiculous and absurd, than the modern idea of Reichenmann detecting in various chronic affections

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the infallible sign of the itch insect
The Legitimate Practitioner is often
divinely censured for not bestowing
upon every grade of Chastatenry
that may chance to arise more thought
and Consideration. This would be an
endless and useless task; for the
Legitimate Practitioner to lay down
his works to pick up those of others
would certainly be Nonsense, and no
doubt would lead him into errors
from which he might never rid
himself. As well might the Preacher
leave his Religion to search and
dive into others, As well might he
throw aside his Bible and ecclesiasti-
-cal duties to investigate the various
creeds and false revelations which

Swarm over our Country like the locusts of old Egypt. -----

Hahnemann in different portions of his "Organon" very assiduously attempts to show that the law of Homoeopathy "Similia Similibus Curantur" is the universal law by which Nature attempts the cure of disease. Thus he would say that the eye when it had gazed on some bright object until vision was completely gone, all that had to be done would be to turn and gaze at the Sun for relief. -----

That remedies differ in result according to the dose administered is an established fact with the Legitimate Practitioner. Thus according

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to the dose exhibited Ipecacuanha
Antimony &c may be made to act
either as an emetic or Nauseant or
as diaphoretic. Supertrate of
Potash & turpentine may be
made to act as diuretics or as
purgatives. but these effects must
depend upon the quantity given
Opium too may be given so as
to act either as a Sedative or as
a Stimulant. But the crowd that
we are opposing deny all this
and which every Man woman and
child know to be the fact. Yes;
facts that were established by the
Fathers of Medicine, propagated by
them, and through them have
descended to us as an heritage.

No Man can practice Medicine
with honor to himself or to the
profession without a knowledge
of the effects of Medicines when
given in different proportions
And No Man should be permitted
to do so who would deny that
Medicines produce effects according
to the quantity administered -
Again: Homoeopathsists say and
over that they do not wish to bring
a new practice into a solitary
branch. But we know better - we
know that they have used every
exertion and have left no stone
unturned in their endeavours to
overthrow and sink into utter
oblivion that system of Medicine

which has withstood the storms and tempests in past times - and is still shining as the brightest star in the Medical firmament - and will still continue to shine in all its brightness and glory in all coming time as a beacon to those tempest-tossed on the billows of disease. - It demands for the field of its reformation the whole territory of practical medicine joins issue with Homoeopathy in every inch of its possessions and will beat it eventually from its fastnesses in the morasses of false experience of vain hypothesis and delusive theory. - There was a time in the history of our Country

when these Charlatans were few
and far between. But their ingenuity
has established several colleges for
the purpose of licensing practitioners
of Homoeopathy: and in England
they have established an almighty
oath which has to be taken with
all the solemnity imaginable, before
the Candidate can become eligible
for the position, and of course
"Swear eternal enmity to the Roman's"
The oath is too ridiculous to repeat.
It is certainly the most illiberal
and ungentlemanly undertaking
ever gotten up by man. — — — — —
The Legitimate Practitioners have
no secrets to cover by an oath
And the Lecturers come upon the

stand in the language of Sir Meigs
with their hearts in their hands
A man is a poor one indeed in the
practice of physic if he cannot do
his duty without taking an oath
to support this or that system
This of itself is enough to condemn
the Homoeopaths. Yes: enough
to brand them with eternal infamy
and sink them lower than oblivion
itself — The time in our humble opinion
is not far distant when Homoeopathy
will not even be remembered in song
It will be buried in a dark corner
of some benighted land, and around
its grave will collect its followers
to sing the last song of praise
its last requiem — And with downcast

and lengthy faces will they roam
all up and down the whole Creation
and nothing can console them
For Homoeopathy they will exclaim
is dead and we know not what
to do. — They will be like the Sinner
in the last day, they will call on
the rocks and mountains to fall
upon them and hide them from the
face of the Legitimate Practitioner.

